

Pink Pantry at
The SPACE, p.4



Camp Encore
returns, p.12

A Co-operative Pharmacy Battles Big Chains, Vaccine Skepticism

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

The Greenbelt Co-op Pharmacy

Recently government officials from the city of and county of San Francisco reached out to Greenbelt, which is home to the nation's only co-operative pharmacy, searching for alternative business models and ways the government can support independent pharmacies. Coun-

ties nationwide are beginning to confront a growing problem of "pharmacy deserts," areas where residents lack easy access to pharmacies, particularly in rural or poor communities. "After a large increase in [pharmacy] access for 20 years, access is potentially in jeopardy," wrote the

analyst from San Francisco. Unfortunately, the Co-op Pharmacy has been facing similar economic pressures and weighted corporate competition over recent years. With unpredictability from the Trump administration and a vaccine skeptic heading the nation's Health and Human Services Department, this year has added political challenges, too.

The Nation's Only Co-op Pharmacy

Greenbelt's first Co-op pharmacy was established by the Consumers Distribution

See PHARMACY, page 8

FBI to Move To Reagan Building

On Tuesday, July 1, the FBI announced the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C. will be their new headquarters. This follows Trump's vow in March to prevent it from moving to Greenbelt, which he falsely claimed was "three hours away" in the "liberal" state of Maryland. FBI Director Kash Patel called the move to the Reagan Building cost effective and resource efficient. The Reagan Building formerly housed the U.S. Agency for International Development, which was dismantled by Trump's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), without congressional input, over the spring.

After years of assessment, the General Services Administration selected Greenbelt as the site for the new FBI HQ in November 2023. Plans included a secure FBI facility and a mixed-use commercial development at the Greenbelt Metro Station, a move anticipated to bring with it billions of dollars in economic development.

Advertising Rate Change

Effective the issue of August 7, 2025, the News Review will change its ad rates.

Display

The base rate (Tier A) will be \$11.50 per column inch.

The nonprofit rate for those qualifying will be \$8.10 per column inch.

Discounts are available for those placing at least 45 column inches per calendar quarter.

Inserts

The price for placing inserts into the paper will change to \$35 per thousand copies for a full press run.

For further information visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/advertising.

Sanborn Joins Barracudas As Head Coach for Swim Team

by Ellie Jornlin

The Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team, also known as the Barracudas, welcomed Molly Sanborn, a lifelong swimmer and endurance athlete, as their new head coach in June.

Sanborn began swimming when she was just 5 years old, joining her neighborhood swim team while growing up in North Carolina. From a family of athletes, she has played many sports, but finds a deep connection with the water. She is especially drawn to open water and long-distance swimming.

Sanborn enjoys the Greenbelt community, living nearby in New Carrollton and spending countless hours training at the Greenbelt pool, where she's witnessed the team's strong community spirit. She was between jobs when the coaching position opened and is excited to get started.

"Coaching allows me to work directly with kids and see the positive impact up close," said Sanborn. "I want to create a space where kids learn good technique and work hard, but also really enjoy themselves. For me and others I knew, some of our best swimming memories were with our summer swim team. Not just the high-level stuff, but being part of a fun team."



PHOTO COURTESY MOLLY SANBORN

The Greenbelt Swim Team's new head coach, Molly Sanborn

Before becoming a coach, Sanborn earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Richmond and a master's in global health epidemiology from George Washington University. She worked in public health emergency preparedness at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Though her federal work was impactful, she decided to shift her career toward coaching to be around swimming more often and make a direct difference to her community.

"I'm really drawn to coaching because you can work one-on-one

See SANBORN, page 11



Greenbelt's July 4th Celebrations At Park, Fireworks Over Lake

by Will Hammann

The City of Greenbelt will celebrate Independence Day with fireworks over Greenbelt Lake on Friday, July 4, continuing its 87-year-old tradition.

Preceding the fireworks, the event will feature arts and crafts at Buddy Attick Park from 4 to 5 p.m. At approximately 5:45, the Declaration of Independence will be read aloud in honor of the approaching 250th anniversary of its 1776 signing, which will be one year away this July 4.

The Community Drum Circle is scheduled to perform from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. and Greenbelt Honk! Situation is scheduled for 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., replacing the Greenbelt Concert Band which

played in previous years.

Greenbelt Baptist Church will host a free celebration across the street from the park from 4 to

See JULY 4TH, page 6



PHOTO BY BILL CORNETT, COPYRIGHT 2021

Marc Siegel watches from his kayak as the fireworks explode over Greenbelt Lake on July 4, 2021.

Elections Board and Council Debate City Election Changes

by Abel Bisrat

The Greenbelt City Council began deliberations at a June 18 worksession on the referendum questions that, if approved by council, will be posed to the community on the November 4 city election ballot. This election marks the first time noncitizens will have the opportunity to vote in city elections, with registration available into early October.

In the discussion on referendum questions, three main topics were discussed for eventual placement on the ballot: poll workers, term lengths and electoral districts – prompting additional discussion on charter changes and including a presentation on ranked choice voting.

Younger Poll Workers

The matter of employing poll workers under the age of 18 prompted vigorous discussion that raised nuanced technical questions. The proposal extends the opportunity to 16- and 17-year-olds. Mayor Emmett Jordan proposed modeling the ruling on Prince George's County's rules that currently allow some under 18 to participate in elections as poll workers. The county limits

how long those under 18 are allowed to work, and students would be unable to work until after 3 p.m. when school ends. City Manager Josué Salmerón, however, suggested that there would likely be some deviations from the county's overall model. One issue that came up was compensation for under-18 poll workers. Another issue was the number of hours that students can work.

Election Board Chair Steven

See ELECTIONS, page 6

What Goes On

Friday, July 4

Independence Day, All City Offices Closed

Monday, July 7

No City Council Meeting.

Wednesday, July 9

No City Council Meeting.

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

Letters to the Editor

For the Record

For the record ... the headline I Disagree! above my letter in the June 26 issue was chosen by the Greenbelt News Review staff, not by me. No real harm done although it might lead some readers to believe I'm a bit higher on the irritability scale than I actually am.

The leaders of our two political parties and most of the national media might disagree, but I think public discourse about the routine issues of the day would benefit from fewer black headlines and almost no exclamation points. The bold type and exclamation points should be saved for the really important issues like global climate change, the destruction of Gaza and Beyonce's latest T-shirt.

David Miller

Editor's Note: News Review staff write most headlines, in part because they need to fit the space, but mainly because letter writers seldom submit them. Oh, and they are normally in black ink.



Support Public Media

Our public media stations, WETA, MPT, NPR, PBS and all the rest are in danger of loss of government funding. The ongoing war against good journalism and worthwhile TV and radio has targeted them for elimination.

We need to preserve these treasures. If you have not done so yet, please register your support online at [Protectmypublicmedia.org](https://protectmypublicmedia.org) and sign the petition. It only takes a couple of minutes and the more our voices are heard the more we may get listened to.

The 1700 Public Access, Education and Government (PEG) stations around the country are not yet included in these proposed budget cuts. There is nothing to stop Congress from repealing the tax that created the PEG industry in 1985 and defund it also.

Timothy Snyder's second lesson in his book *On Tyranny*: 20 Lessons from the 20th Century is to defend your public institutions. We are well advised to do so.

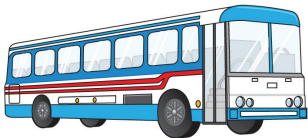
Frank Gervasi
President, Greenbelt Access Television (GATe)

Well Done, Route 11

With the end of the local #11 Bus last month, I'd like to thank the bus drivers who drove me and fellow passengers to and from the Metro during the work week. Through the summer heat, winter snow and everything in between they diligently served this community. I will miss them and the option of riding this local bus line.

Travel well.

Lisa Crawley





Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org
Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!
After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9
Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
JULY 4th -10th

Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore (NR)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (98 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Sun. 1:15 PM (OC)
Tue. 8:00 PM, Wed. 5:40 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:00 PM, Sun. 4:00 PM
Mon. 3:30 PM, 6:00 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM

David Attenborough: Ocean (NR) (2025) (95 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 3:40 PM, Mon. 4:00 PM
Tue. 5:45 PM, Wed. 8:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM, Sat. 7:30 PM
Thurs. 7:50 PM

Materialists (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (109 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:15 PM
Mon. 6:15 PM
Wed. 8:00 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:15 PM
Sun. 1:30 PM
Tue. 7:30 PM

The Trouble with Harry (PG) (1955) (99 mins)
Cinema Classic - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 1:00 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM

Luca (PG) (2021) (95 mins)
School's Out! - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 1:00 PM



KEEP THE GREEN IN GREENBELT.

Drop us a Line!
Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

Letters Policy
Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).
Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.
All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

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15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887
Phone: 301-474-4131
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com (stories, letters, photos)
ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com (ads)
business@greenbeltnewsreview.com (billing)
website: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com
Presidents: Alfred M. Skolnik, 1959-1977, Elaine Skolnik, 1977-1985
Mary Lou Williamson, Editor
Anna Bedford-Dillow, Managing Editor
STAFF
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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.
MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year
Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore

Marlee Matlin was born into a hearing family, like roughly 9 percent of Deaf people. Growing up in Illinois, she faced episodes of isolation and abuse. She found joy in performing at a local Deaf theater. In 1987, Matlin became the first Deaf actor to win an Academy Award and was thrust into the spotlight at 21 years old. Reflecting on her life in her primary language of American Sign Language, the film explores the complexities of what it means to be a trailblazer. As a child, filmmaker Shoshannah Stern was inspired to believe that a Deaf woman like herself could pursue a career as an actor after seeing Matlin win her Oscar. Stern's directorial debut is an intimate, honest and loving conversation between two profoundly connected people that weaves together Matlin's first-person account with interviews from those who know her best.

David Attenborough: Ocean

The film takes viewers on a breathtaking journey showing there is nowhere more vital for our survival, more full of life, wonder or surprise, than the ocean. The celebrated broadcaster and filmmaker reveals how his lifetime has coincided with the great age of ocean discovery. Through spectacular sequences featuring coral reefs, kelp forests and the open ocean, Attenborough explains why a healthy ocean keeps the entire planet stable and flourishing. Stunning, immersive cinematography showcases the wonder of life under the seas and exposes the realities and challenges facing our ocean as never before seen, from destructive fishing techniques to mass coral reef bleaching. Yet the story is one of optimism, with Attenborough pointing to inspirational stories from around the world to deliver his greatest message: the ocean can recover to a glory beyond anything anyone alive has ever seen.

Materialists

A young, ambitious New York City matchmaker (Dakota Johnson) finds herself torn between the perfect match (Pedro Pascal) and her imperfect ex (Chris Evans). Directed by Celine Song.

The Trouble with Harry

When a local man's corpse appears on a nearby hillside, no one is quite sure what happened to him. Many of the town's residents secretly wonder if they are responsible, including the man's ex-wife, Jennifer (Shirley MacLaine), and Captain Albert Wiles (Edmund Gwenn), a retired seaman who was hunting in the woods where the body was found. As the no-nonsense sheriff (Royal Dano) gets involved and local artist Sam Marlowe (John Forsythe) offers his help, the community slowly unravels the mystery.

Luca

Set in a beautiful seaside town on the Italian Riviera, Disney and Pixar's original feature film is a coming-of-age story about one young boy experiencing an unforgettable summer filled with gelato, pasta and endless scooter rides. Luca (voice of Jacob Tremblay) shares these adventures with his newfound best friend, Alberto (voice of Jack Dylan Grazer), but all the fun is threatened by a deeply-held secret: they are sea monsters from another world just below the water's surface.

Community Events

CORES to Meet On Sunday, July 6

The monthly meeting of CORES (a community-led initiative to chart a course of resilience through chaos) will be held on Sunday, July 6 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 114. The meeting will be focused on jobs, among other local solutions. All are welcome who want to create great solutions here in Greenbelt.

Follow along with CORES by subscribing to their free Substack at open.substack.com/pub/greenbeltcores.

Stamp Out Hunger Close to Home

To help keep the shelves stocked at the St. Hugh's food pantry, where the need is high in these uncertain times, Greenbelt PORCH will pick up nonperishable food placed on porches as scheduled below.

Sunday, July 13 – by 11 a.m. for 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway.

Saturday, July 19 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill.

Sunday, July 20 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and for PAL (PORCH at large) members, including former Woodland Hill donors. Contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on July 20 at SpreadRUAK@gmail.com. He will come to your porch.

Sunday, July 20 – by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

Sunday, July 27– by 4 p.m. for 11-S Ridge Road, 14 and 16 Courts Ridge Road, and 8 and 10 Courts Southway.



Rotary Club Describes Services to Greenbelt

The Greenbelt Rotary Club invites Greenbelters to learn more about the services it delivers and sponsors across Greenbelt and how to get involved with the club, on Thursday, July 10 at 7 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 114.

Hear how the club provides services and support to Greenbelt elementary schools and families, to student drivers, the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival, the Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen Award, the Greenbelt Grows and Great Food Transition Programs and more. Light refreshments will be served. The Club meets every Thursday at the Greenway Center IHOP at 8 a.m., except for the second Thursday of the month when the club hosts this evening speaker series.

The SPACE Hosts Giveaway Saturday

The SPACE, Free Art for All, is saying goodbye to their upper location at Beltway Plaza and hosting their final giveaway this Saturday, July 5 from 1 to 4 p.m.

They'll be giving away clothes for all ages (men, women, youth and baby), housewares (mugs, dishes, kitchen goods and more), hundreds of DVDs, art supplies and more surprises. Local organizations, mutual aid groups and churches that serve the community are especially welcome.

Visitors should bring their own bags or boxes.

Call For Artists

The New Deal Café is looking for individual artists for a new group show starting this Sunday, July 6. The art show will be on display from Sunday, July 6 until Sunday, August 31. Email artworksbymaryann@gmail.com as soon as possible for more details.



Survey of Walkers, Bikers by SHA

The State Highway Administration (SHA) is conducting a survey and virtual meetings to gather public input on pedestrian and bicyclist needs. Virtual meetings will be held July 8 to 23. The survey is open through August 7.

SHA, part of the Maryland Department of Transportation, is committed to improving safety for vulnerable road users – defined as those walking, cycling or rolling – and is conducting an online survey and virtual meeting series to gather public feedback to help update the agency's Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Assessment.

The online survey, conducted by the SHA Office of Traffic and Safety, is available from a link at roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/pressreleasedetails.aspx?newsId=5393 and is open through midnight August 7. The survey allows participants to use a digital map to provide feedback on their experience walking, biking and rolling on routes that have been identified through the analysis as corridors of interest and suggest enhanced biking and walking infrastructure.

The meeting for Montgomery and Prince George's counties will be held Tuesday, July 15 from 4 to 6 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. There is a call-in option to join the meeting: 1-667-262-2962, passcode 577377009#.

Free Drop-in Art Class For Kids on July 9

Children aged 4 to 15 can enjoy a free art class on Wednesday, July 9 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 113. At the event, children will learn paper marbling with instructor Ana Fernandez-Napp. They will also enjoy an open-studio style array of different art projects from Play Doh to independent drawing and more.

This free class is a great chance to try out the Drop-In Makers and Artists program, which will run weekly on Wednesdays until August 13. The drop-in format is perfect for busy summer schedules, with chances to register for individual sessions or a five-visit pass. Participants may arrive or depart at any time during the scheduled studio time. Children under age 8 must attend with a participating adult.

For more information about Greenbelt arts programs, follow [@greenbeltrecreationarts](https://www.instagram.com/greenbeltrecreationarts) on Instagram or Greenbelt Recreation ARTS on Facebook. Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Boxwood Village Scholarship Open

The Boxwood Village Civic Association offers an annual \$500 scholarship to a current Boxwood Village resident. It is available to graduating high school seniors and full-time (at least 12 credit hours per semester) undergraduate students. The scholarship is partially funded through the proceeds from the Boxwood booth at the Labor Day Festival, the annual Boxwood yard sale and other activities. The application form should be completed and returned by July 15. A scholarship committee comprised of three Boxwood Village residents will choose this year's recipient. For further information or to pick up an application form, email Janet Mirsky at mirskyjanet@gmail.com.

No Kings 2.0 Rally Will Be Friday, July 4

The next No Kings rally in Greenbelt, No Kings 2.0, is scheduled for Friday, July 4 from 10 a.m. to noon. Protestors will assemble at Roosevelt Center at 10 a.m. and, at approximately 10:15, march to the Gladys Noon Spellman Overpass via Gardenway, about a 10- to 15-minute walk. Marchers are encouraged to bring signs, noisemakers and respect for a peaceful protest.

A core principle behind all No Kings events is a commitment to nonviolent action.



Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

Here is the schedule of meetings for July.

July 9 – Speaker, Sheila Mafay-Tuthill of the Greenbelt Museum will discuss the museum's new programs.

July 16 – Birthdays and Luncheon. A membership group is planning to revive the potluck birthday celebration luncheons, with everyone bringing a dish to the event.

July 23 – Bingo.

July 30 – Speaker, Daphne Silver, author of cozy mysteries, including Crime and Parchment and The Tell-Tale Homicide.

Greenbelt Chess Club Meetings for July

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesdays, July 8, 15 and 22 at the Greenbelt Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to their mailing list, go to tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Show Your Support!

With Your Kind Donation, You Can Help Us in Our Mission of Fostering Community-Driven Storytelling!

Scan QR Code to Learn More!

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt, 1995-2025!

BECOME A MEMBER!*

Greenbelt, MD

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight; Sunday, 9am – 9pm

TH 7/03	FRI 7/04	SAT 7/05	SUN 7/06	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Wolf's Blues Show & Sit-in Jam 6:30 - 10pm Big, bodacious blues jam	INDEPENDENCE DAY The Bob Band 8 - 11pm Capturing the vibe and spirit of Bob Dylan	Luther Vandross Tribute Show: R&B singer, songwriter & multi-Grammy winner 6pm & 8pm shows Ticketed event; see NDC webpage [CALENDAR] for link.	Seth Kibel Quartet 6 - 8pm High energy jazz and klezmer; winner of 25 WAMMIES - A must see	
MON 7/07	TUES 7/08	WED 7/09	TH 7/10	New Deal Cafe
MONDAY MAUVENESS KARAOKE 6 - 9pm Host: Mike Bennett INFINITE & Graye Line Band	Open Mic w/ Tom Gleason 7 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6:15pm Show us your stuff!	BIBLIOPHILES BOOK CLUB, 11a - 12p The Piedmonsters 7 - 9pm Fingerpicking mixed with lively singing	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Susan Jones Jazz Quartet 7 - 9pm Violin-led jazz group plays an eclectic mix	IT'S THE CAFE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY! Visit our donations page to help fund our October celebration festival!

*Join NDC! Go to NewDealCafe(dot)com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR. REMEMBER TO TIP OUR BANDS! THAT'S HOW THEY'RE PAID.

A Little Pink Pantry to Combat Period Poverty Opens at The SPACE



Jakeya Johnson, Executive Director of Reproductive Justice Maryland, displays the contents of the Little Pink Pantry.

On Friday evening, June 27, The SPACE and Reproductive Justice Maryland held a ribbon cutting of the new Little Pink Pantry inside the Third Space Lounge in Beltway Plaza (in front of the AMC Theater). Inspired by the Little Free Library movement, the grassroots initiative Little Pink Pantry makes essential care items accessible with dignity and respect, giving away period products and safer sex supplies. Individually wrapped products to share can be dropped off at any time.



Contemplative Prayer Group Meets Tuesdays

A contemplative prayer group meets on Tuesdays at the Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, 1 Hillside Road, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. This gathering is a time to pray in silence for oneself, others and the world. It nurtures inner and outer peace and reinforces the oneness of all people and creation.

The format for this group is an opening introduction, 30 minutes of silence and then some sharing. All are welcome to attend from all denominations and faith traditions. For more information, email Patience Robbins at patience.robbins@gmail.com.

Find More Peace Through Meditation

Katrina Boverman, a longtime meditation instructor with the SAGE program, and the Mishkan Torah Synagogue Sisterhood are offering summer Guided Meditation classes via Zoom only. Classes began Monday, June 2 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. for seven sessions, held every other Monday through August 25. There is no charge; donations are welcome. For more information email Katrinaboverman@yahoo.com or call 301-641-1035.

Patuxent Refuge Hosts Youth Photo Contest

Youth ages 5 to 14 are invited to submit up to three photographs to Kids Click, a nature and wildlife photo contest sponsored by the Friends of Patuxent Research Refuge.

Cash prizes will be awarded for original photos to one winner and one runner-up in three age categories: 5 to 8 years old, 9 to 11 years and 12 to 14 years. Entrants can submit up to three 4 x 6 photos, with no mats or frames, from both cellphone and stand-alone cameras, by bringing them to the Visitor Center's Front Desk now through Saturday, August 2 during the Center's normal hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. They can bring three photos at once or at different times during the contest period.

The photos will be posted anonymously in the Visitor Center throughout the contest. Judging and notification of winners will be completed by August 30.

What makes a good nature photo? Photographer Rick Dove will lead a free, short nature-photography Exploration and Discovery Walk and Talk on Saturday, July 12 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at the Visitor Center, intended for potential contest entrants, youths ages 5 to 14. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
www.myholycross.org
Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M.
Bible Study: 11:15 A.M.

Thursday Thrift Store
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

PGCPS Offers Free Meals for Children

Beginning in July, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will provide free meals to children 18 and younger on a first-come, first-served basis. This is separate from meals provided to children in summer programs. No registration or enrollment in the program is required. Each child must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The closest sites to Greenbelt are in Beltsville. Calverton Elementary School, 3400 Beltsville Road, will serve hot meals between July 7 and July 31 from Monday to Friday – breakfast between 9 and 9:30 a.m. and lunch between 12:30 and 1 p.m. Bagged lunches will be offered at the Beltsville Library, 4319 Sellman Road, between July 7 and August 7, Monday to Thursday from 1 to 2 p.m. Find the complete list of sites and service times here: pgcps.org/offices/food-and-nutrition/summer-meals. Find an interactive map for locating children's meals at mars.msde.maryland.gov/mars_sitesearch/.

March in the Parade On Labor Day

The Festival Parade will take place on Monday, September 1 from 10 a.m. to noon. The parade route is along Crescent Road, from Greenhill Road to Southway. Organizations, clubs and other groups are encouraged to participate. Visit greenbeltlaborday.com/parade for more information and to register.



Labor Day Applications For Information Day

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee is now accepting applications for Information Day, which will take place between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 30 in Roosevelt Center. Organizations, clubs, businesses and other groups are invited to share information with the public. Find out more and register at greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/information-day.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
COME TO OUR NEW LOCATION
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

“At present Universal Peace is a matter of great importance, but unity of conscience is essential, so that the foundation of this matter may become secure, its establishment firm and its edifice strong.” – ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...
Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord
Psalm 33:12a

Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Rd.)
MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
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July 6, 2025 at 3:00 pm
To Be Free
Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Jim Flaherty
What does it mean to be ‘free’? What are freedom’s rights and responsibilities (and what is its divinity)? In the spirit of our July theme (Pilgrimage), Juneteenth, and July 4th – we’ll freely explore these questions and more.
Streaming on PBUUC’s Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

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Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
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301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
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• Sunday Mass:
◦ Sat vigil 5pm*
◦ Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
• Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

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City Notes

Public Safety/Community responded to power outages and promoted cooling centers during heat wave conditions. Constituent Services met with Franklin Park management about immigration concerns.

Grant Coordinator, CARES, Finance and Police explored grant-seeking strategies. Public Information and Information Technology launched the redesigned city website, Greenbeltmd.gov.

Animal Shelter staff responded to 70 calls and sheltered a cat, five kittens and a puppy.

Building/Facilities Maintenance replaced tiling at Springhill Lake Recreation Center (SHLRC) and Horticulture/Parks prepared for July 4.

Environmental/Sustainability promoted National Pollinator Week at the Farmers Market, distributing milkweed plants.

The Community Center received 100 padded chairs, thanks to an Arts Grant. Arts staff and Center supervisor launched Kindercamp, Creative Kids Camp and Camp Encore. Fifty-five summer camp visitors toured the Museum.

At the Aquatic & Fitness Center, summer programs began with youth swimming lessons, water exercise and swim team practice.

CARES distributed 250 food boxes to residents and welcomed 13 students for summer AI classes at SHLRC.

At the Library

All Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) branches will be closed Friday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday. All regularly operating branches will reopen on Saturday, July 5 at 10 a.m.

Greenbelt Library’s regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Wednesday, July 9, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749345.

Thursday, July 10, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749377.

Books at Bedtime

Wednesday, July 9, 6:30 p.m. ages newborn to 3. Stories, music, and activities for children with and without special needs. Presented by the PGCPs Infants and Toddlers Program for early intervention students and up to 12 community families. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is for interest only and not a guarantee of space. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749333.

Passports

Greenbelt Library serves as a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment only; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmls.info/passport-services.

Customers may call the Greenbelt Library directly at 301-345-5800 for their reference inquiries and to book passport service appointments during regular Library operating hours.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together, all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe, and fair.

MEETINGS FOR JULY 7-12

Monday, July 7 at 7:30 pm, **NO MEETING**
Wednesday, July 9 at 7:30 pm, **NO MEETING**
In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held, call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES:

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt! Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today! Call (301) 474-8000.

NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR ARPA PED/BIKE PROJECTS

Beginning the week of July 7, 2025, a City contractor will begin construction on new and updated pedestrian ramps in advance of Public Works installing marked mid-block crosswalks.

Construction will occur in the vicinity of the following five locations and will include removal of parking spaces both for construction and for establishing safe sight distances at the new crosswalks.

- Southway, between Crescent Road and Ridge Road
- Ridge Road, between 31 Ct. and 33 Ct.
- Ridge Road, at the pathway between 33 Ct. and 35 Ct.
- Ridge Road, at the pathway adjacent to 43 Ct.
- Hillside Road north of Crescent Road

Please contact Jaime Fearer, Assistant Director of Planning, with questions at jfearer@greenbeltmd.gov or 240-542-2040

ARTS HAPPENINGS

For more information and updates:
View the summer activity guide at www.greenbeltmd.gov/464/activity-guide
Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.
Follow us on Instagram - @greenbeltrecreationarts

Creative Kids Camp Performs 'Memory Quest' in Central Park, 7/3, 10am & 2:15pm, Greenbelt Community Center. A group of young cousins explores the famous park, hoping to retrieve memories for their grandmother. For FREE tickets, visit the Greenbelt Community Center business office or call (301) 397-2208. Additional performances on 7/18, 8/1, and 8/15.

Sewing Hands-On History Thursdays, 7/3-8/21, 6-9 pm. Greenbelt Community Center. Learn basic hand sewing skills in order to make historically accurate accessories and other practical items from the 18th and 19th centuries. Examine modern reproductions of historic garments and hear about the elements that influenced these fashions. See page 25 of the activity guide.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON!

Solar Plate Etching 7/3-8/21, 6-8 pm Greenbelt Community Center
Art in the Park 7/4, starting at 4 pm. Buddy Attick Lake Park
Fused Glass Jewelry 7/6 starting at 11 am. Greenbelt Community Center

ELECTRONICS, STYROFOAM & PAINT RECYCLING

Saturday, July 26, 9 am - 12 pm
Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent

RECYCLE YOUR OLD COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS!

Electronics Recycling - Accepted: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, fax machines, wires, power cords. NO - ALKALINE BATTERIES or CFLs; NO - TUBE TVs.

Expanded Polystyrene - White, block Styrofoam #6.
Clean - Cups, egg cartons, and food trays welcome.

PAINT RECYCLING!

Cost—\$5 per container. DO NOT mix paint in other containers. If you are unable to attend the event, you may hire this service directly to come to your home for an additional \$100 service fee. Contact: Yuck Old Paint, LLC 888-509-9825 (YUCK) or www.YuckOldPaint.com. Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004 with any questions or concerns.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter. Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources#/>

JULY 4TH FANFARE

Celebrate Independence Day with friends and neighbors at Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD:
• Bring a picnic
• Walk the lake trail
• Enjoy the playground
• Art in the Park, 4-5 pm
• Community Drum Circle, 5:30-6:45 pm
• Greenbelt Honk! Situation, 7:30-8:30 pm
• FIREWORKS, approximately 9 pm
In case of inclement weather, please call the weather and information hotline at (301) 474-0646.

GREENBELT POLICE, PUBLIC WORKS GEARING UP FOR JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

Things to Know about Greenbelt’s Independence Day Celebration
The fireworks display will take place at Buddy Attick Lake Park, 555 Crescent Road, on Friday evening, July 4th, at approximately 9 pm and last 20 to 30 minutes. A Greenbelt officer will be at the main gate in addition to having officers on foot patrol throughout the area. The Greenbelt Citizen Emergency Response Team will have a tent nearby, serving as a hydration station with cooling chairs, and will provide limited first aid assistance.

Please note that alcoholic beverages are NOT allowed at Buddy Attick Park. Violators are subject to arrest. For safety and security reasons, people carrying coolers and packages into the park may have them inspected. Pet owners must keep their pets on a leash at all times and pick up any droppings and dispose properly.

ALL forms of fireworks, including firecrackers, snakes, sparklers and bottle rockets, are prohibited by law in Greenbelt and throughout Prince George’s County. Anyone found in possession of fireworks will be subject to arrest. Penalties include fines up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail.

Traffic and Parking Concerns

The park is on Crescent Road near Kenilworth Avenue. Participants are reminded to observe all posted parking regulations. The parking lot is reserved for handicapped and elderly individuals. Vehicles must have handicapped or elderly persons on board. Handicapped tags and/or placards will not necessarily be required nor will they guarantee a parking space. Temporary No Parking signs will be posted on streets surrounding the park. Vehicles parked in these areas will be towed.

Traffic Control

Once the fireworks begin, there will be no inbound traffic allowed on Crescent Road from Kenilworth Avenue. When the fireworks are over, exiting traffic will be redirected outbound on Crescent Road toward Kenilworth Avenue. Traffic from Kenilworth Avenue will not be allowed onto Crescent Road until most cars have left the area. Motorists exiting the Beltway will not be allowed to proceed north on Kenilworth Avenue. Motorists heading for the Old Greenbelt area should take Greenbelt Road. These temporary changes in traffic patterns will be in place until the Traffic Supervisor determines that it is safe to resume normal traffic.

Calls for Information

For information in case of inclement weather, call the Greenbelt Recreation Weather and Information Hotline at (301) 474-0646. Do NOT call the police dispatcher for fireworks-related information. Police telephone lines must be kept open for emergencies or for other police-related concerns.

JOIN THE CHARTER REVIEW TASKFORCE

Are you passionate about shaping the future of our city? Do you want to have a say in how our local government operates? Now is your chance to make a difference! The City of Greenbelt is forming a Charter Review Task Force to evaluate and recommend changes to our city’s charter. We are looking for dedicated residents who are eager to contribute their time and expertise to this important process. Submit an application at the following link:
<https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/application-for-appointment-to-boards-andcommittees>.
For more information or to apply, please contact City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 474-3870.

CAREGIVER NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Your feedback will help us better understand your needs and how we can support you. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/4e5F6ds to get started! For more information, contact Brendy Garcia at 202-670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov. Brought to you by Dementia Friendly America, The Maryland Umbrella Group, Prince George’s County Health Department, and the City of Greenbelt.



HOLIDAY REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Week of June 30

Monday Route – Collected Monday
Tuesday Route – Collected Tuesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Thursday Route – Collected Thursday
Friday Route – No Collection
There will be no appliance, odd metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, July 4.

THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL NOT BE OPERATING.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

JULY 4TH continued from page 1

7 p.m. where people can enjoy food, a moon bounce, face paint and games. Greenbelt Community Church will also host a picnic prior to the fireworks.

The fireworks will begin at approximately 9 p.m. and will last between 20 and 30 minutes.

Coolers and packages will be inspected upon entry to the park for safety. Alcohol and personal fireworks are prohibited, and pets must be leashed at all times.

Greenbelt Police, Public Works, and Recreation and Parks say that they are prepared to handle crowds of up to 5,000 people. They say they have never exceeded capacity or had to turn anyone away from the celebration, but parking is often an issue due to out-of-town visitors.

Many of these visitors come from College Park, where firework shows have been cancelled in recent years as a result of the Covid pandemic and Purple Line construction.

The parking lot at Buddy At-tick Park is reserved for disabled and elderly individuals, according to the City of Greenbelt’s Ins-



tagram account. Parking on streets around the park will be temporarily restricted, as will inbound traffic on Crescent Road from Kenilworth Avenue once the fireworks be-

gin. After the fireworks, exiting traffic will be redirected out-bound on Crescent Road toward Kenilworth Avenue, and inbound traffic on Crescent Road will resume once most cars have left the area.

Motorists exiting the Beltway will not be permitted to proceed north on Kenilworth Avenue, and the city advises those heading toward Old Greenbelt to take Greenbelt Road.

The city’s first Fourth of July celebration was held in 1938. The celebrations have been held every year since then except for 1942 to 1945 during World War II, and in 2020 at the peak of the Covid pandemic. The tradition continues in 2025 with no plans to stop.

Will Hammann is a student at the University of Maryland’s Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning at the Greenbelt News Review.

ELECTIONS continued from page 1

Gilbert raised a concern about possible conflict of incentives noting that if students were to be paid while also being granted service-learning hours for their participation, it may defeat the service component of the work. Councilmember Danielle McKinney suggested, and council generally agreed, that offering students the choice between volunteer hours (part of the graduation requirement) and pay would resolve any conflict between paid and volunteer hours. One concern was adults working with minors. Background checks on adult poll workers and how detailed they would have to be were concerns. Salmerón was asked to investigate any requirements for background checks relating to the employment of minors – either the workers or those who supervise them.

Length of Term
The next question was on the extension of council terms from two to four years. This discussion was similarly lively, eliciting responses from the audience as well as discussion among councilmembers.

Gilbert kicked things off by recommending that referendums on the question ought to consist of two parts, one on the council term and the other that provides residents the opportunity to vote on whether there should be a process by which councilmembers could be subject to recall.

Even those opposed to the notion of longer terms concurred that the matter should be put up for a vote and there should be an additional question about the right of residents to recall their councilmembers. Councilmember Kristen Weaver suggested there may be room for staggered terms with member elections being subject to rotating two-year terms. J Davis, former long-term councilmember and mayor, spoke in favor of the rotating four-year term and the ability to recall, not merely censure, a councilmember.

Charter Change

Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Weaver wrangled over how the charter is changed, with there being some disagreement over whether such a thing could be wholly adjudicated by council or whether state law regulates how the charter is changed. During the discussion, Roberts also raised the issue of the large number of signatures required for a petition for a change, that allows citizens to force a vote. This number is approximately 3,000 and based on the number of registered voters for national elections – a far higher number than participate in city votes. He suggested investigating whether the city had the option to change the required number of signatures.

Election Districts

The next item dealt with a proposal to divide the city into election districts and how such

Council Approves Solid Waste Pilot Program for One Year

by Oliver Gaycken

The Greenbelt City Council held a meeting on June 16 where the primary topic of discussion was a proposal by Green ACES for a Save-as-You-Throw solid waste pilot program. The proposed program would allow households that currently receive city waste services to either opt in to the pilot program or to opt out. By opting in, households would pay a lower yearly flat fee, proposed at between \$220 to \$240. These households would then be obligated to dispose of their trash in special trash bags, which would be purchased from local merchants for the following prices: an 8-gallon bag for \$0.50; a 13-gallon bag for \$1.25, and a 33-gallon bag for \$2. For households that opt out of the program, the yearly fee will be between \$360 and \$400. These households will not have to use special bags for trash disposal.

Benefits

As Green ACES representative John Lippert outlined, the Save-as-You-Throw program has several virtues. Other municipalities

that have adopted a similar model have seen significant reductions in the amount of trash headed to the landfill and an increase in the amount of recycling. The program also promises to generate more revenue for the city when compared to the previously contemplated increase in solid-waste fees as reflected in this year’s budget and explained at a previous worksession (see the May 14 issue). The Fiscal Year 2026 budget assumes an increase in the flat rate to \$336/year, which would generate \$779,000, versus \$828,000, the amount generated by the lowest likely participation rate of 40 percent (the consultant on the program, Waste Zero, estimates an initial opt-in of 40 to 60 percent). The program also promises to be more equitable since participating households that generate less trash would pay less. Finally, the increased revenue would allow the city to subsidize the existing pilot composting program when the



current grant funding supporting it runs out.

Concerns

Some concerns that were voiced during the discussion included questions of implementation and administration. Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) is a major factor in the program since it accounts for 1,600 of the city’s 2,300 residential waste customers. Lippert acknowledged the need for education about program details but emphasized that it would not represent a major change from the current system. Households that opt out of the program would receive large, colorful stickers to place on their waste bins; households that opt in would use the special bags that look different from other commercially available bags. Mayor Emmett Jordan raised the issue of noncompliance, and Luisa Robles, the city’s sustainability coordinator, pointed out that the city already has letters that inform residents about trash policies. As for the administration of the program, City Manager Josué Salmerón noted that GHI currently does the accounting around the trash fee for its members, and that the city can and should take on this task in the future. Councilmember Kristen Weaver moved that the city draft an ordinance to create a one-year pilot program following the details in the Green ACES presentation, which was approved unanimously.

Proclamations, etc.

Other items on the meeting agenda included two proclamations: one recognizing Greenbelt’s participation in National Pollinator Week and another marking the Juneteenth holiday. In the city manager’s administrative report, Salmerón noted that the sewage issue that closed the Youth

districts fit within the overall structure of council. Councilmember Jenni Pompei, Jordan and community members all referred to the complications that may arise relating to the many ways that such areas could be partitioned. There was also the matter of how members representing certain districts would be voted on, either at-large or elected only by those in their district. (Note: Even if councilmembers serve at large, a districted system could require them to live in a specific area of the city.)

A community member raised a significant question about whether or not the creation of districts would polarize the city further and heighten divisions among residents. The underlying problem referred to by speakers is that in an at-large system, some areas of the city may not be as

well represented on council – with fewer councilmembers living in one area of the city than another – though over long periods historically, this to some extent has evened out. On the other hand, districting might result in councilmembers being elected with different totals based on the number of voters in each district.

No votes were taken on any of the topics as the meeting was for discussion purposes. Actions will be taken in future council meetings.



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KIDS CLICK!

A Youth Summer Nature Photo Contest at Patuxent Research Refuge

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Photo Contest Entry Guidelines
To enter the contest, bring your parent/guardian and 1-3 original 4"x6" photos (no mats, frames, or names on fronts) to the front desk at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, Patuxent Research Refuge.

Submission Hours:
Wednesday to Saturday: 10 AM - 4 PM
Closed on federal holidays
Ages 5-14

You can submit all three photos in one visit or bring one per visit during the contest period

CONTEST RUNS FROM: JUNE 14 - AUG. 2, 2025

Not sure what makes a good nature photo? Join us for a nature-photo discovery walk & talk

Date: June 28 and July 12
Time: 10:30 AM to 11:15 AM.
Location: National Wildlife Visitor Center (under 18, with adult supervision)

PGCPS Interim Superintendent Announces Key Staff Appointments

by Ellie Jornlin

Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) announced two key appointments to their executive leadership team under Interim Superintendent Shawn Joseph, Ed.D., according to a press release.

Deann M. Collins, Ed.D., has been appointed Chief of Staff, succeeding Quincy Boyd. She will oversee the Offices of Communications, Performance Management, Research and Evaluation, and Government Relations, Compliance and Procedures. Collins most recently served as Deputy State Superintendent for Teaching and Learning at the Maryland State Department of Education.

Denise Douglas will serve as Associate Superintendent for Communications and Community

Engagement, replacing Luis A. Morales. She is the recipient of the 2024 Public Relations Society of America “Impact” Award. Douglas most recently served as Director of Communications for the Prince George’s County State’s Attorney’s Office under County Executive Aisha Braveboy, who appointed Joseph. She also spent nearly a decade at Prince George’s Community Television, where she reported on the experiences of Latino families and other underrepresented groups in the county.

Ellie Jornlin is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

Girl Scouts’ Little Free Library



PHOTO BY HANAA MALIK

Storm Damage Cleanup



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Greenbelt’s horticulture crew works on relocating a large tree that fell across the Lake path, near the peninsula, following recent storms. The crew has also been clearing vines and debris along other walkways as they prepare for July 4 celebrations.



PHOTO BY MARY WINTERNITZ

On June 1, Girl Scout Troop 23023 of Greenbelt installed a Little Free Library outside the entrance to the Glenn Dale Community Center. The Junior Girl Scouts (fifth graders at the time) built, decorated and installed the library and chose a location where one scout lives and who has noticed there were not many of the libraries in her community.



COUNCIL continued from page 6

Center would be fixed by the start of summer camps. Back-to-school events are already being planned, including backpacks, haircuts and flu clinics. Greenbelt’s federal delegation has submitted a request for funding to replace the roof of the Youth Center at a cost of \$250,000 that would include a solar power generation system. Additionally, the city received grant funding for the service coordinator at Green Ridge House, and Animal Control will resume its micro-chipping program. Finally, the city plans to implement enhanced safety protocols for the Fourth of July celebrations at Buddy Attick Park, the details of which were still being finalized.

Other Business

In other business, Councilmember Jenni Pompei presented a draft of a letter to be sent to Governor Wes Moore regarding the work of the Greenbelt Reparations Commission. The context for the letter is a recent bill passed by the Maryland General Assembly calling for the creation of a committee to study the issue of reparations. Although he was involved in drafting the bill, Moore ultimately vetoed it. Jordan expressed concern that the letter as drafted could detract from Greenbelt’s attempt to align with Moore on other issues, particularly the city’s opposition to the proposed maglev project. Weaver suggested modifications that would put greater emphasis on framing the issue as one of

partnership, underscoring Greenbelt’s desire to take a leading position on reparations and asking the state for help in this regard. Pompei appreciated the suggestions and moved that the letter be amended as discussed and sent to Moore; the motion passed.

Bring Your Own Bag or Box

HOUSEWARES

The SPACE Freemarket Clean Sweep!

Saturday, July 5 1-4

Beltway Plaza Mall the Upper Space (former Big Lots)

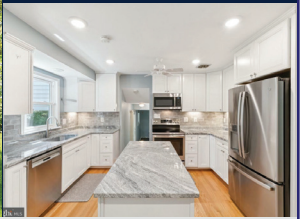
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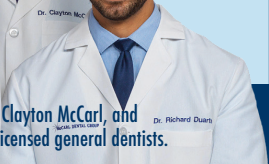
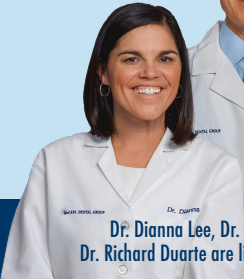


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PHARMACY continued from page 1

Vaccine Uncertainty

The Trump administration initially missed meetings to organize a panel to plan for flu vaccines, but it looks like they're on track to proceed without radical differences this year. Yet, Gillotte says the national uncertainty and foot-dragging trickles down as trepidation at the local level. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was an anti-vaccine activist and founder of the anti-vaccine organization Children's Health Defense prior to his appointment to President Trump's cabinet. He has been critiqued for his anti-science stances, including linking vaccines to autism and chronic diseases.

In June, Kennedy fired all 17 members of the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and replaced them with seven of his personal appointees, including opponents of vaccines. ACIP is now set to review the established childhood immunization schedule. The new panel held its first meeting last week and included presentations on thimerosal, a preservative that's long been a focus for anti-vaccine advocates, and the risk of febrile seizures after combination measles vaccinations. Unlike usual presentations to ACIP, last week's were not vetted by experts and the one on thimerosal, given by Lyn Redwood, former president of the anti-vaccine group founded by Kennedy, cited a non-existent study and claimed thimerosal was not proven to be safe or effective. "Removing a known neurotoxin from being injected into our most vulnerable populations is a good place to start with Making America Healthy Again," concluded Redwood in her presentation.

An alarmed medical community has criticized efforts to sow doubt and misinformation about vaccines. The American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, Infectious Diseases Society of America and numerous medical organizations signed an open letter to the American people following the ACIP meeting: "Recent changes to federal immunization review processes raised concerns across the medical and public health community. In this moment of uncertainty, physicians must align around clear, evidence-based guidance for patients," it said. "We commit to working together to promote public understanding and confidence in the use of vaccines to avoid another severe respiratory virus season and resurgence of vaccine-preventable illnesses and deaths. We call on our partners – from insurers to hospitals to public health agencies – to ensure vaccines remain available to patients without cost sharing," they wrote.

Crisis Hotline: 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is 988. Calls and text messages are confidential and free.

Corporation as what would be, to the best of their knowledge, the first co-operative pharmacy in the country (see page 3 of the March 16, 1938, issue of the Greenbelt Cooperator). Today Greenbelt's cooperative pharmacy is one of several pharmacies in Greenbelt, including three CVS pharmacies, one located inside Target in Beltway Plaza and one that's open 24/7. The Greenway Center Safeway also has pharmacy services, offering shopping discounts with vaccinations. Incentives like that, which larger stores can afford to offer, and partnerships between insurance agencies and large corporate pharmacies, add to a field weighted against small, independent pharmacies. Insurers partnering with major corporate chains can offer reduced costs to the patient, enhance convenience with access through nationwide chains and shipping options, but they are also leading to market dominance and conflicts of interest.

Yet, "the challenges of pharmacies are starting to affect the big players, too," Dan Gillotte, general manager of the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy, told the News Review, "so they're starting to close stores, which then causes some access issues. The chains are closing stores at a relatively rapid clip," he said. "For sure independent pharmacists are suffering and closing all around." RiteAid, CVS and Walgreens have closed thousands of stores over recent years, targeting the least profitable ones and disproportionately impacting rural and low-income areas and communities of color. Today, pharmacy options from Amazon and Costco, for example, provide even more competition to neighborhood pharmacies.

Uneven Field

The Co-op Pharmacy has roughly the same number of prescriptions filled weekly this year compared to last, says Gillotte,

so it's a consistently utilized pharmacy. "But there's also a lot of pressure on people to use other pharmacies. Their insurance companies urge them to use other companies and this is through various deals that are worked out with CVS or Walgreens or RiteAid by insurers and some insurers that are owned by those conglomerates," said Gillotte. For example, the insurer Aetna is owned by CVS Health. In a cross-sectional study of Medicare Part D claims data for 10,455,726 patients published this year, "34.1 percent of all pharmacy and 37.1 percent of specialty pharmacy spending occurred through Cigna-, CVS-, Humana- or United-Health Group-owned pharmacies in 2021" and "each firm steered plan enrollees to their own pharmacies" (Kaki, Navangul, Luo et al.).

Costs

Running a pharmacy comes with a lot of uncertainty. Unlike other businesses that can set their product pricing, drug prices are beyond the Co-op's control, explained Gillotte at a May Co-op Board meeting.

A recent shift for the small pharmacy is that insurance companies want 90-day supplies of drugs, says Gillotte, so they have to keep more inventory on hand in order to fill those larger orders. "We pay for it well before we get reimbursed for it," said Gillotte, "so it's just kind of a cash pressure that happens for independent pharmacies." Sometimes customers place orders and don't pick them up for a while; unlike other product purchases where you pay upon ordering, for medication, the pharmacy is paid at pickup.

Over recent months, President Trump has advocated lowering drug prices. In May he signed an executive order "to put Americans first by lowering drug prices and stopping foreign free-riding on American Pharmaceutical innovation." Lower costs to consum-

ers could be a good thing, but it's unclear how that would be achieved. If it involves applying downward pressure on pharmacies, that could be disastrous, says Gillotte.

In addition to the fluctuating drug costs that are out of the pharmacy's control, payroll costs are substantial for highly trained pharmacy staff, said Gillotte. The Co-op maintains a much higher pharmacist to technician ratio than national chains, which adds to their costs.

Immunizations

One of the areas in which pharmacies are able to do well financially is offering vaccinations. "We've done our best to be a great place to get immunizations," says Gillotte. Unfortunately, he said, the Trump administration is moving away from supporting vaccines. For example, the government no longer recommends Covid boosters for people under 65 or for children and pregnant women. Gillotte says this national policy can play out at a store level because fewer people will get vaccinated if their insurance doesn't pay for it and they're less likely to if it isn't recommended. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) vaccine list shows the cost for a Covid vaccine without insurance is either \$136.75 or \$141.80, depending on the brand, for children over 12 and adults.

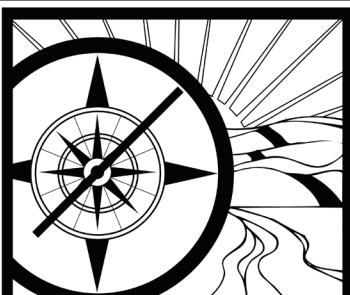
"In some respect, the insurance companies take their cue from the CDC," says Gillotte. "It's going to have a real effect on all pharmacies, I think," Gillotte said of changes to vaccine recommendations. "When they invite public comment, we can make public comment but there's not much else we can do about it," he said.

The Future

"We could have [more] customers if the playing field weren't tilted in the favor of the chains," Gillotte told the News

Review, "and there doesn't seem to be a lot that we can do about that except we try to have better service, and we're a little more reasonable to deal with and we do whatever we can to make it worth people's while to utilize our service. But when it comes just down to dollars and cents, there are incentives happening that are well out of our control." The Co-op has the capacity to serve more patients, says Gillotte.

Asked how the pharmacy is doing financially, Gillotte was unwilling to break down performance by departments. "There was a period of time when it was more of a contributor to our cash flow," said Gillotte. "It's still contributing. It's got its challenges and it's much more complex and regulatorily difficult than any other part of the business but it's still contributing and we're still committed to making it work." They receive a lot of positive feedback about the pharmacy and believe it's "a professional strength for our Co-op to have it," said Gillotte. "We're glad to serve our community in that way, and we can serve more folks if they wanted to come our way. "



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred June 23-29, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary
Greenbelt Police reported three mental health diversions, one involving attempted suicide, and five domestic incidents, one with a weapon and four resulting in arrest, one due to a warrant.
There were five missing persons cases: on June 25 a missing juvenile with mental health concerns was found in a store; on June 23 a missing person case was resolved; on June 24 an autistic man was located in Montgomery County; on June 27, a teenage boy went missing and returned; and on June 28 a teenage girl left home without parental permission.

Armed Robbery
On June 23 at 1:03 p.m. near 7500 Hanover Parkway, a man was approached by three men, one armed with a black handgun, who stole his ski mask. No injuries were reported.

Assault
On June 28 at 11:19 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, an employee was involved in a physical altercation with a customer.

On June 29 at 9:42 p.m. near 6126 Breezewood Drive, a man said a neighbor accused him of stealing her cat. The cat in question did not match the description of the cat given by the woman. The man claimed the woman assaulted him.

Disorderly with Arrest
On June 25 at 12:29 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man entered a gym where he was not a paying member. He refused to leave, and when officers placed him in custody, he refused to give his name or any information about himself. He was taken to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Fraud
On June 23 near 9106 Springhill Lane, a man posted a help-wanted ad online and was contacted by a company. After a Zoom meeting, he agreed to pay a deposit, and the next day, an unauthorized charge initiated by them appeared on his account without his consent.

On June 25 near 4 Orange Court, a checking account was compromised.

On June 28 near 3 Plateau Place, someone opened three accounts in a woman's name.

On June 29 near 8230 Greenbelt Station Parkway, a man was swindled out of over \$100,000 in a fraud scheme. The swindler told the man his information had been compromised and that he had to pay money so it could be thoroughly investigated.

Theft and Shoplifting
On June 23 at 2:33 p.m. near 6124 Breezewood Drive, a man visiting his father left his electric bicycle at the bottom of the stairs, and it was stolen; at 11:10 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was arrested for shoplifting.

On June 24 at 12:53 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, two women stole various items.

On June 25 at 4:26 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman took merchandise and gave a false name when she was taken into custody.

On June 28 near 8112 Mandan Terrace, a laptop package was stolen. The serial number was noted.

Vandalism
On June 26 near 9125 Springhill Lane, officers conducting a foot patrol discovered gang graffiti. It was photographed and sent to the detectives.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles
Four vehicles were stolen: on June 23 near 7323 Hanover Parkway, a 2002 Honda Civic (Va. TBK1429); on June 25 near 7808 Hanover Parkway, a black 2025 Honda CR-V (Md. 8BG8783); on June 26 near 12 Crescent Road, a 2020 Acura ILX (Md. 4FP3732); and on June 28 near 9148 Edmonston Road, a white 2015 Subaru (Md. 4FE1027).

Attempted Theft of Auto
On June 23 at 12:17 p.m. near 7619 Greenbelt Road, a caller reported two individuals, dressed in all black, wearing face masks and rubber gloves, and acting suspiciously. Officers found them with various tools commonly used in auto thefts. Charges are pending.

Theft from Auto
On June 23 near 7480 Greenway Center Drive, someone stole the rims and tires from a rental vehicle. That same day, near 6916 Hanover Parkway, rims and tires were stolen from a rental 2025 Toyota Camry.

On June 24 near 6404 Ivy Lane, someone stole the rear tag from a vehicle and replaced it with a different one (Md. 5DE9733).

On June 29 near 6210 Breezewood Court, a 2002 Toyota Corolla had a broken window, and property was stolen.

Vandalism to Auto
On June 26 near 26 Crescent Road, a 2025 Honda Civic had a window broken and near 170 Westway, a vehicle had a window broken.
On June 28 near 9314 Edmonston Road, officers found an Acura with the words "cheater-liar" spray-painted on it, and near 124 Westway, someone damaged the door handle of a 2021 Honda Accord.

Michaelides Becomes Fire Chief As Green Moves to Broader Role

by Will Hammann

Prince George's County Fire Chief Tiffany Green announced on June 27 that she was leaving behind her role of the past five years to become Assistant Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for Public Safety and Homeland Security in the office of County Executive Aisha Braveboy.

In her new role she joins Barry Stanton, deputy chief CAO, in overseeing the county's Fire/EMS Department, as well as the Police Department, Department of Corrections, Office of Homeland Security and other public safety areas as assigned.

Green made history as the county's first ever female chief, appointed in 2020 by now-U.S. Senator Angela Alsobrooks after more than two decades of service in fire and emergency services.

Green's tenure as fire chief was mired in staffing shortages and slowing response times in the aftermath of the Covid pandemic. In an effort to address such shortages, she removed career fire and rescue personnel from Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights, Bowie and Bunker Hill in June 2024 (see the June 13, 2024, issue of the News Review).

Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights and College Park pursued litigation against the county on the basis that the understaffing would lead toward harm to residents.

On Oct. 21, 2024, a circuit court judge dismissed their complaint saying the plaintiffs did not provide sufficient data to support it (see the October 23, 2024 issue).

Despite her controversial cuts to fire departments like Greenbelt, Green is credited with furthering mentorship and professional development within the department, championing, in particular, the High School Fire Science Cadet Program.

On Monday, June 30, Braveboy announced Thelmetria "Meme" Michaelides as the next fire chief for the county. Michaelides becomes the department's second female chief, with 26 years of service in the department. Michaelides was also the first female bomb technician in both Prince George's County and the State of Maryland.

Michaelides continues the trend of making history but faces the same challenges as her predecessor.

Will Hammann is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.



Foster Cat



PHOTO BY KEN LOO

This is Billie, a one-month-old kitten who is being fostered by Emilia Loo. Emilia is currently in Greenbelt Middle School and has been fostering Billie since the kitten was 3 days old.

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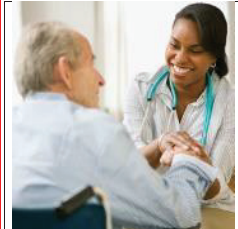
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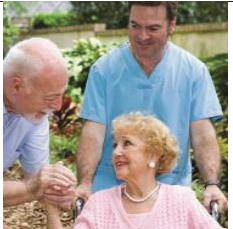
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Submit this form (or something equivalent) by **July 28** to
Bob Zugby
Outstanding Citizen Committee
94 Ridge Road, Greenbelt MD 20770
or OutstandingCitizenGB@gmail.com

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Attach a statement (preferably printed or typed) explaining why this nominee deserves recognition as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen. You can include a list of organizations or activities in which the nominee has participated, including length of time, specific accomplishments, their impact upon Greenbelt or people within the City, and personal qualities that make the nominee special. Note this award is for *unpaid* volunteer work only.

Any supporting printed material is useful, but not required. Others' testimonials are also helpful.

You may be contacted for additional information. If you prefer, send this form now and complete the statement later. The form and any additional information must be received no later than the **July 28 deadline**.

Nominated by: _____

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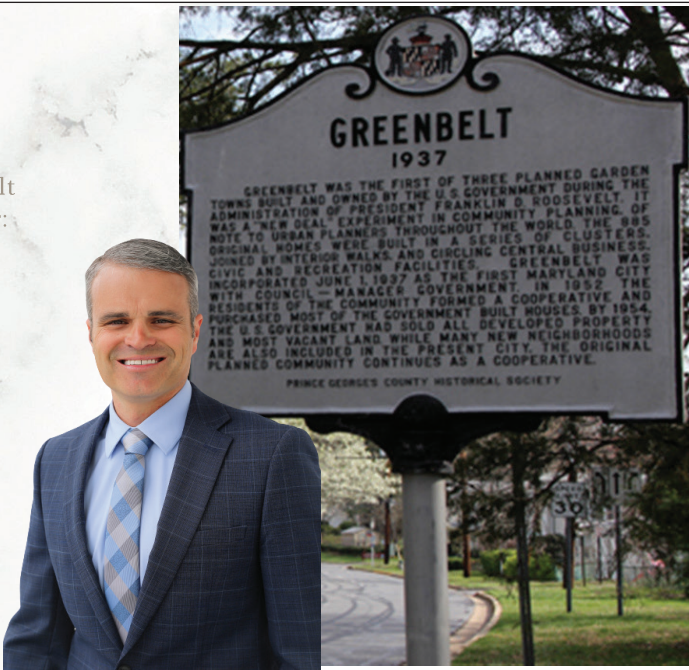
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Sports

Barracudas Enjoy Friendly Competition,
Second League Win of Summer Season

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Greenbelt’s Barracudas kept busy with two meets last week. The first was a B meet at Cheverly Swim and Racquet Club on the evening of Wednesday, June 25. A B meet is a friendly competition between two teams, the results of which do not count toward league rankings. At these meets any swimmer who previously placed first or second in a race is not allowed to swim that stroke. It’s a good opportunity for swimmers to try new things, for younger swimmers to race strokes or distances that are new to them and for different swimmers to get a chance to finish first. The meet was delayed by thunder and the pool was warm but the team had

fun and swam hard. The Cheverly Dolphins won that friendly competition with 248 points to Greenbelt’s 180. Early on the morning of Saturday, June 28, the Barracudas traveled to Waldorf for their third league meet of the season against Smallwood Village Aquatic Club. There they enjoyed cooler weather and earned a win for Greenbelt with 300 points to Smallwood Village’s 265. This weekend, Greenbelt’s swimmers will compete against Belair Swim and Racquet in Bowie.



SANBORN continued from page 1

with kids and see how much this sport impacts them in a positive way. Yeah, you’re going to affect less people, but probably more deeply,” said Sanborn. One of Sanborn’s proudest moments as a swimmer came when she swam the English Channel in 2023. “It was 14 ½ hours,” she said. “I got in at night which was very difficult. Mentally, it was very hard to get through that because it was very cold, choppy, dark and disorienting.” Despite the physical and mental challenges, Sanborn’s mother joined her for part of the swim, turning the challenge into a profoundly meaningful family moment. “My mom swam it as my support swimmer. She got in at sunrise and swam with me for an

hour. It was a very lovely thing to experience with my mom, who was the reason I fell in love with swimming. It was a very emotional thing, getting to do that with her.” Sanborn plans to train for more long-distance open water swims in the future, but wants to prioritize coaching. “Right now I’m focusing on coaching, but I’d like to do another big swim, maybe Lake Tahoe or the Catalina Channel,” she said. “There are so many beautiful places to explore through swimming. It’s a way to stay healthy, find peace, and see the world.” Ellie Jorlin is a student at the University of Maryland’s Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning at the Greenbelt News Review.

Greenbelters Travel



From left, Cathie Meetre, Letty Bonnell, Jerry Bonnell and Rick Meetre display the News Review by the Tagliamento River bike trail in Italy.

On their religious pilgrimage to the Vatican, from left, JoEllen Sarff, Franca Onunkwo and Donna Peterson stopped by an Italian leather store to buy gifts and display their Greenbelt Pride.



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Coming Soon 4-Level Greenbelt Townhome with garage. 3 br/3 1/2 baths. Large living room with cath. Ceilings, fireplace & raised deck. Rem. Kitchen.



Coming Soon Boxwood Village - 5 BR, 2 1/2 BA with 4 levels - 2,500 sq. ft. of living space! Large covered deck overlooks fenced backyard. Original owners!



Large Corner Lot 2-bedroom home remodeled throughout. Opened kitchen with modern fixtures. Mini-split HVAC. Oak hardwood flooring. Amazing inside!



Coming Soon Greenbelt 4-level townhome with garage. 3BR, 2 1/2 Baths.

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Music & Arts

Camp Encore Summer Team Returns With New Leadership

by Max Cason

This summer, Greenbelt Recreation’s teen theater camp – Camp Encore – resumes its pre-Covid format of fully produced shows and longer session lengths. The camp was founded in 2004 by Performing Arts Coordinator Chris Cherry to provide a dedicated theater arts camp for kids graduating from Creative Kids Camp. For the past 12 years, Kate Magill Robinson has served as director of the camp.

In addition to the return of the robust, pre-pandemic format, this year also marks the passing of the torch from Robinson to her protégés and former students, Zoe Larsen and Creed Jackson. Larsen and Jackson say they are honored to step into their mentor’s previous role. Because of their time with Robinson, they appreciate



Creed Jackson, left, and Zoe Larsen

the value of the traditional elements of the camp returning this year, while bringing new energy and ideas from their years of work in the broader community. They share an enthusiasm for theater and a dedication to provide teens with a fun and valuable summer program.

Jackson attended and interned at Creative Kids Camp which

serves elementary and pre-teen children, and has worked as a camp counselor there since 2021. Last year they also stepped up to teach the music program. They have performed and worked as a crew member and instructor for the Winter Youth Musicals produced by the Greenbelt Recreation Performing Arts Program. Jackson has also acted in local theater productions. They are currently playing the role of Jack in Into the Woods at Second Star Productions in Bowie. Their previous credits at Second Star include Dreamgirls, Mary Poppins and Music Man.

Larsen has also attended, interned and worked as a camp counselor at Creative Kids Camp, in addition to their time at Camp Encore. They appeared in and later crewed the Winter Youth Musical shows, including this year’s production of The Secret Circus, which they worked as stage manager. They have also worked in many local theater productions, and have recently moved into directing positions. Most recently, in the spring of 2025, they directed a production of A Knight’s Tale.

Camp Encore’s first session began June 23. In addition to learning and performing a unique show for each session, campers have opportunities to learn from experienced professionals in acting, directing, stage combat, dancing, costuming and more. Each of the two sessions will also feature a field trip to see a show at the Shakespeare Theatre Company Academy. Campers learn a variety of stagecraft skills while working in a professional black box theater space. Spaces are still available for session two, which begins July 21. Register by visiting the link under Summer Theater for Teens at greenbeltnmd.gov/arts or call 301-397-2208.

Camp Encore’s shows are free and open to the public, and are a great opportunity for the community to support young actors. The production for the first session is A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Tickets are available starting Wednesday, July 9 and showtimes are on Tuesday, July 15 at 2 p.m. and Wednesday, July 16 at 11 a.m. The production for the second session is an original scripting of The Odyssey. Tickets are available starting Wednesday, August 6 and showtimes are on Wednesday, August 13 at 1 p.m. and Thursday, August 14 at 7 p.m. The location for all shows is the Greenbelt Arts Center, 123 Centerway. Tickets are available at the Community Center business office or by calling 301-397-2208.

City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For more program information, visit greenbeltnmd.gov.

Greenbelt Orchestra Performs With Roosevelt Band Students

by Melissa Sites



Greenbelt Community Orchestra performs at Eleanor Roosevelt High School on May 22, conducted by Derek Maseloff.

Greenbelt Community Orchestra held an exciting concert in the auditorium at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) on Thursday evening, May 22, in collaboration with the ERHS band program.

In keeping with the desire to feature works by women, the orchestra began with a foreboding and atmospheric Romantic era piece by 19th-century German composer Emilie Mayer, known as the “female Beethoven.” Seth Glabman, conductor, called the Faust Overture “a fantastic roller coaster of highs and lows,” with its dark and brooding opening and passionate movements like a carriage ride to Hades. The next piece, the Overture from Masques et Bergamasques by Gabriel Fauré, was a lighter, more delicate visit to sunny pastures suitable for picnics and playfulness.

A highlight of the evening was the world premiere of Journey to the Unknown by Veronica Maidoh, a violinist who grew up in Hyattsville and graduated from University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2021. Both of her parents were born and raised in Nigeria before moving to the U.S., but her grandfather, who played guitar and piano, attended Syracuse University in the 1960s.

Maidoh says, “Growing up in a church had a big influence on my music. It’s where I fell in love with melody and harmony, and that shows up quite a lot in

the way I compose. I love writing music that makes the instruments feel like they’re singing! I want them to tell a story and connect emotionally, like a voice would in a gospel setting.” She also “fell in love with that cinematic, epic sound. Film music has definitely influenced the way I write.”

Journey to the Unknown is written for four flutes in conversation with a string orchestra and percussion. For Maidoh, it “reflects a path through uncertainty, growth and discovery. As it unfolds, themes return in new forms, showing that what was once unfamiliar becomes something one recognizes and connects with. By the end, it feels as though the listener has arrived at a deeper reflection, shaped by the journey.”

A small ERHS wind ensemble, joined by a few members of the Orchestra, presented two wind pieces, followed by the Viennese Clock, a rollicking percussion piece led by ERHS Band Director Cullen Waller, featuring a raft of mallet instruments including marimba, xylophone, vibraphone, bells, chimes and more.

The evening concluded with Derek Maseloff conducting three movements from Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7. After only two years in existence, Greenbelt Community Orchestra gave an impressive performance of this great masterwork.

Art Pays It Forward Supports Emergency Assistance Fund

by Cynthia Swan



Abstract with Blue

A terrific turnout for the Art Pays It Forward initiative to support the Greenbelt CARES Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF) created a celebratory event. There was a buzz in the air. Those who chose a painting by Greenbelt artist Bill Moats shared their excitement with others, discussed the combination of art and donations as a great idea to help the community and put a big smile on everyone’s face. Many of the pieces were favorites, and a bit of good-natured competition added excitement, but the greater meaning of the day won out. Donations were collected between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 8 and almost all the framed pieces found new homes. The total amount collected was close to \$4,000.

Moats and all who joined to launch the first Art Pays It Forward are pleased with the re-

sounding success. Art and donations are often linked but this was a unique fundraiser for those in need. Prior to the event, the community was given the opportunity to participate in a preview of Moats’ original paintings at the Community Center art gallery. On June 8 the paintings became available to attendees who made a donation to the EAF and they were able to leave the event with an original work of art. The hope is that this concept will be adopted by other artists and fundraisers in the future.

A big thank you to Arts Supervisor Nicole DeWald, Greenbelt CARES Director Liz Park, members of the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association, Meg Haney of Friends of New Deal Café Arts, John Campanile, Greenbelt Access Television, and family and friends who helped coordinate and staff the event.



Local composer Veronica Maidoh, center, poses with conductors Derek Maseloff, left, and Seth Glabman, after the Greenbelt Community Orchestra concert on May 22.